

NEW YORK HERALD.

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EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

BROADWAY THEATRE. Broadway, near Broome street.—THE VICTIM—FORT WARD.

LUCY RUSHTON'S NEW YORK THEATRE. Nos. 725 and 726 Broadway.—FANTASIES IN A BROAD PRAIRIE.

WOODS' THEATRE. Broadway, opposite the St. Nicholas Hotel.—THE LITTLE LADY.

GEORGE CHRISTY'S OLD SCHOOL OF MINSTRELS. BROADWAY, MUSICAL GUILD, AC. Fifth Avenue Opera House, Nos. 2 and 4 West Twenty-fourth street.—THE COUSIN SAM.

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS. 355 Broadway, opposite Metropolitan Hotel.—STREET SONGS, DANCING, AC.—THE PATRIOT.

TONT PATHER'S OPERA HOUSE. 211 Bowry.—SINGING DANCING, BURLINGUES, AC.—LORD OF THE DANCE.

BRYANT'S MINSTRELS. Metropolitan Hall, 473 Broadway.—THE COUSIN SAM, DANCING, AC.—JACK OF ALL TRADES.

HOOVER'S OPERA HOUSE. Broadway.—STREET SONGS, DANCING, AC.—THE PATRIOT.

NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY. 615 Broadway.—Open from 10 A. M. till 10 P. M.

BRADY'S GALLERY. 785 Broadway, corner of Tenth street.—Open every day and night.—NEW YORK SECTION OF WAR TIME AND HISTORICAL PORTRAITS. Free to the public.

FINE ARTS INSTITUTE. 625 Broadway.—KELLOGG'S GALLERY. PAINTING THE ORIENTAL PRINCES "AFTER THE STATE."

HOPE CHAPPEL. 720 Broadway.—CORNELL'S ILLUSTRATED TOUR OF SWITZERLAND.

DODWORTH HALL. 806 Broadway.—POPULAR CONCERT UNDER THE DIRECTION OF MR. J. S. THOMAS.

COOPER HALL. Jersey City.—DASHINGTON'S EXCELLENCE MINSTRELS.

WITH SUPPLEMENT.

New York, Friday, March 16, 1866.

THE NEWS.

EUROPE.

The Cunard steamship Africa arrived at Halifax yesterday, bringing news from Europe two days later. The privatising question still troubled the British Parliament. A resolution had been introduced declaring private property at sea inviolate, but had been withdrawn on the strong representation of the government that such a course would be most impolitic for England. The London correspondent of the Manchester Guardian, usually very well informed, asserts that Lord Cardigan, the new Foreign Secretary, is anxious to reopen the Alabama claims and to a settlement with the United States. In the new born zeal of the English government for the maintenance of strict neutrality between belligerent Powers, two Spanish iron-clads and a Colombian steamer had been seized in England.

The paragraph in the address to the throne on the Mexican question had been adopted in the French Corps Legislatif, on the understanding that discussion should be reserved till the recent diplomatic correspondence on the subject was published.

The Memorial Diplomatique, a paper of some authority, asserts that Mr. Seward has promised United States neutrality in Mexico, in view of the promised withdrawal of the French troops.

There had been no new developments of the Fenian movement in Ireland; but a growing uneasiness was felt in official circles in regard to the ramifications of the movement in the British army.

United States consulates were quoted in London, on the 3d inst., at 70½ a 70½.

CONGRESS.

In the Senate yesterday Mr. Sumner reported a preamble and resolution from the Foreign Affairs Committee, which were ordered to be printed, protesting against the alleged transportation to the United States of persons convicted of crime in European countries, by order of the authorities thereof. Considerable debate took place over a resolution to print ten thousand copies of the Reconstruction Committee's report and evidence. Mr. Garrett Davis, in opposition thereto, taking occasion to make another extended speech. An amendment to reduce the number to six thousand was rejected, and the whole number of ten thousand was ordered. The bill to guarantee all inhabitants of the country protection in the enjoyment of their civil rights, and known as the Civil Rights bill, came up for concurrence in the amendments made by the House, all of which were agreed to, and the bill, which appears in full in our report, now only needs the President's signature to be a law. The remainder of the session was devoted to the consideration of the Pacific Appropriation bill, which was not disposed of.

At the commencement of proceedings in the House of Representatives a sharp and angry controversy took place between Mr. Smith, of Kentucky, and Mr. Stevens, of Pennsylvania, over a request of the former to be allowed to make a personal explanation in reference to certain charges which had been made against him in connection with his introduction of a resolution to admit Colonel Johnson as a Representative from Arkansas. The war of words was also participated in by other members, some of whom objected to Mr. Smith being allowed to proceed with his explanation; but finally he was granted the privilege, and the excitement passed away, for the time at least. The Indian Appropriation bill was reported to the Appropriations Committee, read twice, referred to the Committee of the Whole, and made the special order for next Thursday. The bill to amend the act relating to the habeas corpus was taken up and discussed till the conclusion of the morning hour, when it went over. Petitions were presented for a reduction of the duty on barley imported from the British provinces, and from the Adams Express Company for the issue to said company of legal tender notes in place of like notes destroyed by fire. The consideration of the special order, the Loan bill, was then resumed, and occupied the remainder of the day, without final action. During the debate on it allusion was made to the recent letter of Comptroller of the Currency Clark to Secretary of the Treasury McCulloch, in which the former charged the latter with putting the amount of government funds on hand at over fifty million dollars below the correct figure. This called out a response from Mr. Hooper, on behalf of the Committee of Ways and Means, who stated that that committee had instituted an investigation of the matter, and found that the statement of the Secretary of the Treasury was correct, and that the amount of money in the national treasury on the 1st inst. was one hundred and sixteen millions, and no more, as reported by the Secretary.

THE LEGISLATURE.

A number of new measures were introduced in the State Senate yesterday. Few of them, however, are of general interest. Among them were bills to grade Tompkins square and make it a public park ground for the National Guard, to regulate the grade of Eighth avenue, to incorporate the New York Methodist Sunday School Missionary Society and the Young Men's Christian Association of this city, to provide for additional notes public in this city and to regulate fares on the New York Central Railroad. The latter provides for two cents per mile for passengers, and for those carrying twenty-two to twenty-five miles, two and a half cents; and for those running thirty or more miles per hour, three cents. A few bills were passed, including that incorporating the Sisters of the Poor of St. Francis.

An evening session was held, which was taken up in an interesting discussion of the resolutions on national affairs, urging the importance of a better understanding and full co-operation in the work of reconstruction between the President and Congress, which have already been adopted by the Assembly. Final action on them was not taken.

The chief feature of the proceedings in the Assembly was its action, in evening session, on the bill to limit a day's work to eight hours. After an extended debate till 11 P. M. it was ordered to be read a third time, and by a forty-five yeas to twenty nays. A large number of other matters received the attention during the day. Among several bills reported from committees were those to reorganize the judicial districts of the State, for the better inspection of steam boilers, for the construction of a permanent quarantine establishment in our harbor, to regulate fares on the Eighth Avenue Railroad, prohibiting persons from selling stock or bonds of corporations of which they are officers, allowing husband and wife to testify for or against each other, making appro-

prisons for military purposes, and the Annual Supply bill. Included in an extensive list of introductions were bills for railroads in Cortlandt, DeWitt and other streets and an elevated railroad in Broadway and Spring and other streets, to regulate the fare on all the railroads of this city and Brooklyn, and to regulate the Central Railroad fare. Among a few bills passed was that increasing the pay of the Metropolitan police. The Niagara Frontier Police bill was made the special order for next Tuesday.

THE FENIAN AGITATION.

There seems still to be little if any abatement of the excitement among our Canadian neighbors over the anticipated attack of the Fenians or of the activity of the Brotherhood in this country in their military and financial operations. The work of organizing volunteer companies for defence still goes on in all the Canadian towns, and a warlike aspect has already been assumed by the frontier, which begins to bristle with bayonets, has its skirmish lines extending many miles, and is being fast fortified by earthworks. General Lindsay has been placed in command of the troops of the Lower Province, and General Napier of those of the Upper Province. Five thousand English rifles were yesterday dispatched from Montreal to Upper Canada. The St. Patrick's Society of Kingston held a meeting on Monday night, and unanimously resolved, amid much enthusiasm, to assist the government in repelling Fenian invasion. A force of two hundred United States troops, supposed to be intended to preserve American neutrality, arrived at Buffalo on Wednesday, and were sent to Fort Porter, and it is said that more are expected.

In this city there was evidence yesterday of great activity and much secrecy of movement at both the O'Mahony and Sweeney headquarters. There is no diminution in the influx of the sinews of war at either establishment, money continuing to pour in from all quarters. The work of organizing new circles is also still kept up. The officials at Union square yesterday conducted themselves with a mystery and reticence indicative of some new step of importance. It was intended to have a demonstration on Sunday next for the benefit of the families of Fenian prisoners in Ireland; but it has been for the present postponed.

THE CITY.

A very important decision on the subject of the value of United States Treasury notes, making them equal in every respect, in legal contemplation, to similar denominations in gold, has just been rendered by the General Term of the Superior Court. The decision, which is published in full in our Supplement sheet of this morning, goes further than any other yet made in this State, former adjudications merely going the length of establishing that contracts made before the passage of the act of 1862, and providing for payment in the then legal currency of the country, could be satisfied by payment in United States Treasury notes. The agreement in this case was to pay freight money in gold or silver dollars on delivery of cargo in New York. The plaintiffs, John Wilson & Co., owners of the British ship Atlanta, in January, 1863, chartered the vessel to Gillanders, Archibut & Co., of Calcutta, and the cargo was consigned to Edwin D. Morgan and others of this city. The vessel arrived here in June, and the freight money, amounting to thirty-two thousand six hundred and thirty dollars, was tendered in Treasury notes. The offer was refused, and payment in specie was demanded. This was refused, and the controversy carried to the Superior Court. After the usual preliminaries the case was brought before the General Term, and the decision, written by Judge Monell, lays down the law to be that all debts can be satisfied by a tender of payment in United States Treasury notes.

An amusing account of a hoax practised upon the Spanish authorities here a few days since, with the connivance of the Chilean minister in this city, is published in the Herald to-day. A letter purporting to be intended for the Chilean Minister at Havana, and bearing an excellent imitation of Señor B. Vicuña Mackenna's signature, was dropped in the street at a point where two Spanish spies were passing. They fell into the trap, picked up the letter, and very soon after its contents were known to the Spanish authorities. The pretended information given in the letter, a translation of which we give, concerning the movements of imaginary Chilean privateers, appears to solve the mystery of the sudden departure of the two Spanish war vessels, the Carmen and the Isabel la Católica, from this port. The expense to the Spanish government of the fool's errand upon which these vessels were despatched, owing to the ruse played by the Chilean envoy, is estimated at thirty thousand dollars.

The steamer San Jacinto, of Messrs. Garrison & Allen's line of Savannah steamers, caught fire between two and three o'clock yesterday morning, at her pier, 13 North river, and was totally destroyed in her wood work. The hull, being of iron, was filled with water, and she now lies on the bottom. She had on board five hundred barrels of her inward cargo and about two thousand barrels of flour for Savannah. The vessel was not insured, and the loss on ship and cargo will not fall short of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. Full particulars of the disaster are given in our Supplement.

The investigating committee of the Board of Supervisors still hammer away daily on the alleged corruption of the House of Representatives. Yesterday the architect of the Court House was on the stand; but his evidence was of an entirely negative character. Ex-Mayor Opdyke testified in reference to a communication sent to the Board by him three years ago, which it was decided had nothing to do with the case. The county bookkeeper, Mr. Lynde, gave the only really interesting evidence, which was that the Court House had cost \$2,275,405 02, of which \$450,000 was for the ground. The witnesses for the prosecution were not forthcoming, and Mr. Anthony showed a disposition to procrastinate. Their case will be closed to-day.

The Board of Councilmen held a short session yesterday. A report of the Special Committee on the celebration of Washington's birthday, recommending the payment of bills amounting to twenty thousand dollars, was adopted. The Board concurred with the Aldermen in supporting resolutions recommending that the courts and public offices be closed in order to enable our citizens to participate in the celebration of St. Patrick's day.

The new Health Board continues its inroads on the genus of pestilence in the Metropolitan district. The streets are being cleaned in the vicinity of West Broadway. Since Tuesday last two hundred and fourteen head of "boob" veal have been seized by the sanitary police, and disposed of at the offal dock. A large quantity of this unwholesome species of meat was found and taken possession of on Wednesday at the Chambers street station of the Hudson River Railroad.

The litigation about the gold mine in New Orleans by order of Mayor General Butler was again before the Court of Common Pleas yesterday. The case having been settled, the counsel for the Sheriff applied to Judge Cardozo to tax the fees of the Sheriff for poundage on one hundred and fifty thousand dollars; but the matter was adjourned after some argument, to give time for the production of further papers on both sides.

Nothing of additional interest transpired yesterday in relation to the alleged whiskey frauds. Mr. E. A. Rollins, Commissioner of Internal Revenue, is expected to arrive in this city to-morrow, for the purpose of further investigating the matter.

A man named Joseph Schultz was brought up yesterday before Commissioner Stillwell on a charge of having passed two counterfeit fifty dollar Treasury notes upon several persons. He was informed by the cashier of a bank several of the clerks that it was a genuine good one. The prisoner was remanded for further examination.

A suit against the Broadway and Seventh Avenue Railroad Company, brought by Lawrence Burke, for injuries sustained by his son, a child six years old, in being run over on the 3d of May, 1865, in Thompson street, was tried in the Supreme Court, Part 5 yesterday. The jury will bring in a sealed verdict this morning.

In the Court of General Sessions yesterday, William Jones and William Murray, pickpockets, were sent to the State Prison respectively for five years and four years and six months. John Geary, for burglary, was sent to the same place for three years. Mary Conner, a servant girl, and John Conner, the latter indicted for horse stealing, both of whom pleaded guilty of attempts at grand larceny, were remanded for sentence. Henry Burd, charged with felonious assault and battery, with stabbing Frederick Shoemaker in a lager beer saloon, was committed, and will be concluded to-day.

There were rumors in the city yesterday that some of the million and a half dollars worth of bonds recently stolen from the office of Mr. Lord, in Exchange place, had been recovered; but these proved unfounded, no clue having yet been obtained to any of the missing property or the thieves, though the police are still vigorously prosecuting their operations in the matter.

A man was cut to pieces last evening, between Houston and King streets, by a train of the Hudson River

Railroad cars drawn by a dummy engine. The remains have not yet been identified. An inquest will probably be held in the case to-day.

St. Patrick's Day will be celebrated by our Irish population to-morrow with much spirit and display. There will be a grand parade of a portion of the military and Irish civil societies; a Pontifical high mass will be celebrated in St. Patrick's cathedral, by Archbishop McCloskey; Bishop Lynch, of Charleston, will deliver a panegyric on St. Patrick, and in the evening the Knights of St. Patrick will have a banquet at the Masonic Hall. The day will be observed in like manner in Brooklyn, Jersey City and Hoboken, as also, no doubt, throughout the country.

A meeting was held in the Universalist church 648 Broadway last evening, for the purpose of raising subscriptions to promote the missionary work in this country. Several addresses were delivered, after which a sum of \$1,240 was announced as the amount of the contributions from several ladies and gentlemen present.

The first annual exhibition of the Italian Free School took place last evening in the presence of a large audience at the House of Industry on the Five Points. A series of exercises of a very interesting nature were gone through with successfully, and twelve medals were sent over by the King of Italy for that purpose, were distributed to the most deserving pupils.

Meetings of German tenants were held last night in the Tenth, Eleventh, Twelfth and Thirteenth wards, for the purpose of forming district organizations to agitate the "rent question," and to sign a petition to be presented to the Legislature on the subject.

The stock market was strong and higher yesterday morning, but somewhat unsettled in the afternoon. Governments were dull. Gold closed steady at 131 a 131½.

MISCELLANEOUS.

From Cuba we learn, by our correspondence by the steamship Morro Castle, which arrived here yesterday, that "the ever faithful steamer" has recently been the scene of an attempt at revolution, which, though insignificant as regards the number of those engaged in it, appears to be looked upon by the authorities as a very important. A party of twenty-three young Cubans, said to belong to good families, and supposed to be members of a republican club, after issuing a proclamation, went from Villa Clara, armed with cutlasses, into the district of Sagua la Grande, and were met and attacked by Spanish troops, when twelve of their number were captured; but the remainder escaped, and it was apprehended they would attempt the rescue of their comrades. The battle cry of the young republicans was "Viva la independencia." It was reported that another steamer had been captured on the Cuban coast while attempting to land nearly four hundred Africans. Owing to the Spanish insurance offices, in consideration of the existing hostilities between Spain and the South American republics, having refused to take war risks, a Matanzas merchant proposes to establish an office for the insurance of Spanish vessels against capture by Chilean and Peruvian privateers. There have been extensive supposed incendiary fires on plantations near Carmanas.

To-morrow, the 17th of March, in accordance with the official notification given by our government a year ago, the treaty regulating trade between this country and Canada, known as the Canadian Reciprocity treaty, after an existence of ten years, will expire. This event will cause a great revolution in commercial transactions between the citizens of the United States and the provincials; but of the two it will affect the latter far more seriously, and they yield to it with the greatest regret, well understanding the losses which it will inflict upon them. The strenuous efforts which they have made for its continuance the columns of the Herald have already, from time to time, fully recorded. Finally becoming convinced that all these exertions would prove fruitless, and that the treaty must expire, the Canadians devoted their energies to getting the utmost benefit from it possible while it still existed, and have lately been pushing forward their produce to this country in vast quantities and with all possible expedition.

The French Minister at Washington, Marquis de Montholon, gave a public reception last evening, which was attended by nearly all the members of the diplomatic corps in the national capital and numerous officers of our army and navy.

The last of Speaker Colfax's receptions came off in Washington last evening, and was a perfect jam. Members of Congress, officers of the army and navy and several Governors of States, together with many of the fairest of the fair sex of the national capital, were present.

There was wrecked during last January an Eastern schooner on Hatteras cove, and two men were frozen to death in the rigging. Although more than two months have elapsed since the disaster occurred, and although the vessel in question lies but a short distance from the shore, the bodies have never been removed. There certainly appears to be a necessity for sending missionaries to that section of our coast.

Misrepresentations of the Radicals—Their Schemes for the Next Presidency.

The radical disorganizers in Congress and their organs throughout the country are doing their utmost to create a false impression in regard to President Johnson's course in reference to restoration. On no one point is this more marked than on the position of Mr. Johnson in regard to the admission of Southern representatives in Congress. They are constantly harping upon a statement that the President is trying to force Congress to receive late rebels and secessionists into that body. Their organs are filled with misrepresentations of this kind, all tending to create an impression on the public mind that the President is insisting that the doors of the national Legislature shall be opened to the leading secessionists and the important trust of the nation placed in their hands and at their disposal. This is the burden of the radical speeches and the song of the radical editors. In this course they have to a certain extent misled that portion of the public who take only a superficial glance at the policy of the Executive. Their frequent repetitions of these false statements have had the effect of convincing many that they are true. But nothing can be further from the truth than their assertions about President Johnson's position on the admission of those representatives, and none know this better than the radical leaders. But it serves their purpose to keep up their misrepresentations, and they are constantly repeating them. It is part of their scheme for success in the next Presidential election, and as long as they see that the public are ready to swallow their falsehoods just so long will they continue to repeat them.

The position of the President on the admission of Southern representatives is so well defined, and has been so plainly stated by him, that it does not seem possible that any person with the least self-respect would have the effrontery to repeat the malicious statements of the radicals. The policy of Andrew Johnson on this point is precisely this:—

First—That the Southern States are in the Union. Their ordinances of secession being null and void, they have never been out, and are legally entitled to representation in Congress, the same as New York or Massachusetts.

Second—That whenever the people in any of those States elect Union men, of whose loyalty there can be no question or doubt, it is the duty of Congress to admit them.

Third—That all those claiming seats in Congress from the Southern States who were prominently identified with the rebel government or rebel army should be immediately rejected and their constituents requested to elect loyal Union men in their places.

These three points embrace Mr. Johnson's policy on this subject. Nothing could be plainer for more far than this proposition. This is the position that he has been urging Congress to take. But instead of meeting him on that ground they have appointed their "Central Directory," the Committee of Fifteen,

and refuse to consider the claims even of those men who fought in the Union armies, and were loyal and true to the Union in the darkest days of our war. In order to sustain themselves before the people in their opposition to this plain, sensible and practical plan, they are continually asserting that the President is trying to force them to open the doors of Congress to the leading secessionists. They know that if the people once fully comprehend Mr. Johnson's position they will rally to his support en masse. But by a system of misrepresentation they hope to create a prejudice against the Executive, secure their own re-election and an endorsement of their course in rejecting all claimants for seats from the South.

The effect of the two systems will be directly opposite. If that of the President could be adopted it would strengthen the loyal Union men in the South, and, from necessity, make them the nucleus for the controlling party in all those States. The people would at once see that their only course, their only salvation, was in the election of men who had not been prominently identified with the secession cause; while, on the other hand, the policy announced by Congress places the few men who remained loyal and true to the government during the rebellion at the mercy of the old secessionists and destroys their power and influence at home. The late rebels will very justly say to such men as Maynard, Stokes and Marvin: You might as well have united with us in the rebellion. You have gained nothing by remaining loyal to the United States; for now that the war is over you are received no better by Congress than we are. So long as Congress places the loyal men of the South in this position there is no possible chance for the growth of Union sentiment in those States. The people cannot see how they are going to gain anything by electing loyal men to represent them in Congress, and the result is that they are daily losing their strength and influence at home. Thus, while the policy of the President, if carried out, will strengthen and increase the Union sentiment of the South, and make those men who remained loyal throughout the war the basis for the governing party in that section, that pursued by Congress emboldens the secessionists and continues the political control of all of those eleven States in the hands of the very men who led the people into the maelstrom of secession. This is the issue between the President and the radicals. Let the people take their choice.

But the radicals are determined that the issue shall not be made up in this way. They, therefore, are laboring night and day and spreading false statements of Johnson's position before the country in hopes of misleading the public. They adopt for this purpose the cry that the President urges the admission into Congress of all who have been elected in the late rebellious States. There is not a shadow of truth in this assertion. But they have an object in their persistence in these statements. They are determined to keep the Southern States unrepresented until after another Presidential election, and take this course to justify their action before the people. By keeping those States out they imagine that they can secure the election of their candidate for the Presidency in 1868, and thus obtain another four years' control of the government. This is the secret of all their movements. Party and power, instead of the interests of the country, are the motives that actuate them. If they are permitted to carry out this scheme, then we may look for another revolution and more bloody scenes than any that we have heretofore witnessed. Suppose, for instance, that in the election of 1868 the parties are nearly evenly balanced in the Northern States, or that the radicals have only one or two majority in the Electoral College, and that the Southern States, which have been decided by the Supreme Court to be States in the Union, although not represented in Congress, should hold their elections and give their electoral votes to the conservative candidate. The result would be that we would be plunged into a struggle at once for the possession of the government. This is the logical result and the sequence to the present policy of the radicals. It would be a struggle both fierce and relentless. This the President wishes to avoid, and has designated a policy which will secure a peaceful and permanent restoration of the country, without any danger of collisions hereafter. If the people desire an early and amicable adjustment of the affairs of the nation, and to avoid all breakers ahead, then let them rally to the support of the President. But if they desire another war, another revolution, they can have it by sustaining the radical Jacobins. This is the issue, and the people must not be deceived in regard to it.

THE SUPPLY OF COTTON AND THE PRICE OF COTTON GOODS.—Just after the surrender of General Lee, in April, 1865, we presented an estimate of the amount of cotton on hand, in store or concealed in the Southern States, and showed that in our judgment there could not be less than two million five hundred thousand bales, and possibly, including surplus from previous crops, three million two hundred thousand bales ready for exportation as soon as transportation could be procured. This calculation excited much attention at the time, and various counter statements were made, all pretending to show that our estimate was an exaggeration, and that the amount of cotton in the South at the close of the war could not exceed a million bales—some set it as low as six hundred thousand. Statistical evidence on the subject, however, since received, sustains our calculation and shows that those who disputed its correctness were either wilfully ignorant or grossly mistaken. It is a well established fact that about one million eight hundred thousand bales have already reached the great cotton marts or been shipped from Southern ports to Northern or foreign ports since last May; and it is conceded that a million bales or more are now on hand in the interior, awaiting conveyance to market. This, taking the entire old crop, and without trenching upon the present or new crop, which is gathered in the month of September, gives us, to make good our estimate until that time, seven hundred thousand bales to be exhausted and to reach the Southern seaboard from the interior. Our information on this subject is clear and definite. It is the same with regard to the new crop, the extent of which croakers and speculators are busily at work in belittling. With all the cry about the disability of planters to procure laborers, there is no doubt an immense area of Southern territory will this season be planted in cotton; and if the

weather prove propitious there need be no fears about a large yield. This is the character of our information from several Southern States where planting has already begun. In view of this favorable condition of the cotton supply, it is not remarkable that the prices of all our cotton fabrics and domestic goods to consumers keep so enormously high! The dry goods trade of importers, it is true, is dull; but that is the result of excessive importations, without taking into consideration the facilities of home manufacturers for steadily and rapidly supplying the newly opened Southern market. We expect very soon to hear of heavy auction sales of imported dry goods, and then, in view also of the large cotton supply, we imagine our home manufacturers will be gracious enough to relax the tension of present prices upon domestic goods.

The Proposed English Transit Route to the Pacific.

The latest development of the many European schemes to obtain commercial and political influence in the Pacific, is the lecture delivered a short time ago in England by Captain Pim, of the British navy, formerly known as an Arctic navigator, but of late years an explorer in Central America, with a view to establish a connection between the Pacific and Atlantic, to be used for European interest in opposition to the Panama route controlled by the United States. This question of a new transit route has been long agitated by European nations. Napoleon had a pet scheme of a ship canal across Nicaragua, which he conceived while in the fortress of Ham. Many years later it will be remembered, he sent out the little diplomat, Monsieur Felix Belly, to make examinations in Central America, but his labors did not amount to anything practical. The principal difficulties in the way of a transit route in this direction have been found in the disturbed condition of Nicaragua and the neighboring States. But, according to the statements of Captain Pim, he has at length secured—after many years of patient labor and frequent visits—a contract from the Congress of Nicaragua for the right of way across that State for ninety years, as well as other advantages, such as a grant of a million and a half acres of mineral lands. Fortified with these assurances he proposes to construct a railroad from Gorgon Bay, on the Atlantic side, to Realajo, on the Pacific, making a connection for the present between the intermediate termini of the Atlantic and Pacific divisions by steamers on Lake Nicaragua.

Starting out by showing that the Panama Railroad is a monopoly of American citizens, and is very oppressive to English interests—not alone on the Isthmus, but on the Pacific and in the British colony of Columbia—English commerce being, in fact, seriously jeopardized in these quarters, he thinks that England ought to have a road of her own to the Pacific, and Nicaragua is just the place to construct it. Such a road he regards as "a stepping stone to a wonderful increase of our commerce, and a guarantee against the surprise and disaster which at present could be inflicted on our political and commercial interests in the Pacific, with entire impunity, by a rival nation." The cost of this railroad is estimated at two and a half millions sterling. The distance to be traversed is about two hundred and twenty-five miles, ninety of which is to be by water until the road is finished round the margin of the lake. Captain Pim was perplexed concerning an available port on the Atlantic coast, the harbor of Greytown being filled up with sand, but he alighted upon a little bay inclosed within Monkey Point, three miles north of Greytown, to which he gave the name of Gorgon Bay, after the ship he commanded. We believe, however, that the harbor of Greytown has since been cleared out by the San Juan river, and is now quite practicable as a place of entry for vessels.

The object of Captain Pim's lecture, we dare say, is to obtain the sanction of the British government for this scheme. Louis Napoleon has already favored it, and would no doubt be glad to see it carried out if France could have a controlling power; but Captain Pim evidently desires, like a true son of Britain, that his own country should have all the advantages. Hence he appeals to the British government and British capitalists that "all may be accomplished in the interests of England" in the great commercial battle, in which, if England is defeated, she will be "overshadowed once and forever." He very sagely concludes that "our great rival, now that their war is concluded, will strain every nerve to beat us as a nation in the commercial race, and as a nation, catch us napping, however sharp we may be individually," and that if this transit route is not constructed, England will have the pedestal she now stands on knocked under her feet, because America is rapidly overtaking Great Britain in commercial progress, and in the year 1890, according to the present ratio of increase, will double the population of the latter country and leave England nowhere; in all of which we may say that Captain Pim is entirely correct, and we thoroughly endorse his opinions upon this point.

It is evident, upon the whole, that both England and France are exceedingly uneasy, and with good reason, about the vast strides which this country is making towards commercial and political supremacy among the nations, as the present revived effort to obtain a foothold in Central America very clearly shows. The mind of the French Emperor has been directed to that end for many years. Indeed his Mexican scheme had its inception in the idea that the progress of the United States was about to receive a severe check by means of the rebellion, through which he, as well as our neutral friends in England, expected to see the power and greatness of this country prostrated. And having been deceived in this expectation, they are falling back upon the plan of a transit route to the Pacific, which they can control, and thereby circumscribe, if they can, our growing influence in that ocean and in the East.

SWINDLING GIFT AND OTHER LOTTERIES.—We have repeatedly cautioned the public, especially the country people, against being deceived by swindling gift and other lotteries; and we have lately received communications on the subject which indicate that the scamps concerned in getting them up are still at their rascally work. It seems that the Southern country has lately been the scene of their operations, and that that section of the country is flooded with circulars offering prizes of a very attractive description to those who may be induced to invest in the schemes. One dodge is to send a circular to some citizen whose name has been pre-

viously ascertained, suggesting how he can win a large sum of money, on the payment of a nominal sum, generally ten dollars. All that is required of him is to show the prize money to his neighbors, and represent that it is the fruits of a fortunate investment in a lottery ticket, thereby inducing his friends to invest in a similar game. This, of course, is the last the victim hears or sees of his ten dollars, and the swindlers pocket the money. The cry against the swindling gift lottery enterprises is universal, and the feeling is general that they ought to be suppressed and the managers served as a prominent mock auctioneer recently was—to wit, sent to the State Prison. The Post Office detectives have broken up several of these concerns, but the number does not appear to diminish—in fact, the rascals who manage them show more and more audacity with every exposure. A swindling, wholesome example should be made of some prominent one of these swindlers, and then, perhaps, the little gift villains would cease to commit their depredations on the unwary.

The Necessity of Unity in the Administration.

There is a good deal of philosophy in the trite old adage, "In unity there is strength," and not less so in the opposite of this, that in division there is weakness. We see this in a striking manner when applied to the administration of the government. No government ever stood long the assaults of opposition or faction without being ruined or plunging the country into trouble when its executive members are not united. A hundred instances might be adduced from history in proof of this assertion, and common sense tells us it is true. If even there be a man of strong mind and firm will at the head, the subordinates can do much mischief when acting in opposition to him. The President of the United States, for example, may be both able and determined, but if his Cabinet and other officials under him be opposed to his measures they can and will embarrass him and bring disasters upon the country. He cannot see or do everything. They, in fact, should be his eyes and hands to perceive and execute what he wills. In no other way can the executive machinery of the government work harmoniously and successfully.

Now, what is the situation of President Johnson in this respect? He has members of the Cabinet and numerous subordinates holding different views to his own and working against him. They not only work against him secretly, but show their hostility to his policy. This has the double effect of embarrassing him in the execution of his measures and of bringing the administration into contempt. The people have confidence in Mr. Johnson; they appreciate his great ability, firm character and patriotic devotion to the Union and the interests of all sections; but his administration would become demoralized and feeble in their eyes if its members continue to pull one against the other or against him. The organ in this city of the faction opposing the President said, not long ago, that a caucus of the radicals held in Washington had resolved that the members of the Cabinet representing their views should not resign. That is, they resolved to embarrass the President by keeping in those members, meaning Stanton and Harlan especially, who are hostile to his policy, or to force the responsibility upon him of dismissing them. If he keeps these Cabinet officials in he can serve the faction opposed to him, and if he dismisses them he is threatened with a more intense opposition. Never before did a faction crack the whip so impudently over a President. This did not disturb Mr. Johnson, it is true; he keeps on the even tenor of his way as coolly as ever. His convictions are too strong and his head too clear to change his policy to suit such factionists. They are only dangerous while they are near him and associated in his government. Their threats can do no harm. In every point of view, then—for the strength of his administration, for the success of his measures, for the destruction of a cabal of revolutionists, and for the purity and respect of his government—he ought to change his Cabinet, to remove those opposed to him, to make it a unit. Pierce tried to accommodate all factions in his patchwork Cabinet, and laid the foundation of the terrible war and revolution we have passed through. Buchanan did the same, and brought on the rebellion with all its fearful consequences. Let President Johnson, who is an abler, purer and firmer man than these two of his predecessors, not temporize with opposition. Let him put his foot down like Jackson, and take the responsibility. He has the sagacity and nerve to do it. The people will admire his courage and patriotism, and will stand by him. In his Cabinet and subordinate officials he must have unity of sentiment and co-operation. In this lie strength and success; in any other course weakness.

JOHN MITCHELL IN A NEW PHASE.—John Mitchell has appeared from time to time in a variety of characters. He has worn costumes of many hues, and figured in innumerable rôles in the great political drama of the last twenty years. When he was in the North he pitched in for the institution of the South, and languished for a plantation and a stock of niggers. When he went South he got neither the plantation nor the negroes, but he took up the literary cudgel for the rebellion. When that scheme failed he came North again, but was soon transferred to the sacred soil of Virginia, where he graduated in Fortress Monroe, and since that time he has been very steady and sedate—so much so that his letters from Paris are so tame that they are not worth reading. His eloquence appears to have deserted him, and his wonted fire to have gone out. If Mitchell is a secret agent of the Fenians at the Court of Napoleon that might account for his dealing so tenderly with French affairs, and his conversion to the opinion that the press of France is quite as free as is good for the French people.

A RADICAL FICTION.—A story has been going the rounds of the radical press to the effect that before the passage of the Freedmen's Bureau bill it had been read to the President by Senator Trumbull in the presence of General Howard, and that the President had then agreed to it, and expressed his intention to sign it. This whole story, so evidently false on its face, is simply a radical coinage, though the meager portion of the radical press adheres to its fiction spite of denial. We are able to declare positively that General Howard never was present on any such occasion, and that the President never told him he would sign the bill.